

It will be seen that according to a notification which appears in another part of to-day's paper, the King has called Dr. T. C. B. Rooke and Mr. Wm. Webster to his Council of State. This is a mark of confidence towards those gentlemen which they cannot but esteem highly, the more especially as such tokens of appreciation are very far from common. The public is interested in this matter, for a good many details of the executive branch are left for the King to do, and with the advice of the Privy Council. It is a great thing, then, to know that these Privy Councilors are men of fair parts and corresponding probity. There are many of them with whom the community has but little to do, and the qualifications of such are therefore comparatively unknown. But when a man like Mr. Webster, whose business transactions bring him, in one way or the other, into relationship with almost everybody on almost every island, is called to the Council, the public, knowing him, confesses at once the good judgment with which the King makes his selection. They see no reason to doubt that the same principles which actuate the man out of doors will still operate when he takes his place in the mystic circle of advisers, as some people seem to regard it. The other new member has been and is, through the link of personal interest, so intimately connected with, and through his inclinations and family ties is so thoroughly involved in, the fate of these islands, that, whatever his aptitude for business may be, we have the best guarantee that he will, as far as lies in the power of an individual member, support the honor of the King and Government and advance the interests of the community. These recent additions, added to other names that are familiar in men's mouths as household words, can hardly fail to stamp the character of the Council and gain for it a further share of that gratuitous respect which as a part of the machinery of the State it becomes its due and its right. There is another deliberative body that we could wish to see invigorated by similar means, that is, its talent might not halt behind its importance as a branch of the national Legislature. Amongst the few members of which the Upper House is now composed, there exists a very strong conservative element, the efforts of which, as representing ideas already exploded, would be only amusing if they had not happened to be connected with a dexter hand that counts in voting. If that body were only put into as effective a condition, and made as equal to the emergency of the times as the Privy Council luckily is, the interested spectator would look with greater complacency upon the present condition of Hawaii under a Constitutional Monarchy.

By the way that the *Advertiser* husbanded its resources and nursed its temper in regard to the oft-quoted "Honolulu Water Lots," we expected that an explosion, à la D'Israeli at least, would have followed upon the fruitless attempt of the Government to dispose of these lots by lease, as originally advertised. It is not the first time, however, that we have been disappointed in the *Advertiser*, and so far from finding anything particularly calculated to stimulate our efforts at a reply, or whereby the Government might be instructed and warned, we found an article apparently written as a sop to consistency, a conventional growl, even in extremis, of a moribund opposition. We therefore could have passed it over without comment, letting the events themselves demonstrate to intelligent minds what mode of disposition will prove the most advantageous to the Government and best calculated to encourage and develop a healthy commercial expansion. But the *Advertiser* has too diligently labored to prejudice the public mind against the management and propositions of the Government, to thus escape the consequences of its own acts; with its permission, then, we will review the reviewer.

In the commencement of its article on the 20th instant, it tells us that "ever since its commencement (it has) looked upon the improvement of Waikahalulu with a great degree of interest as one that, properly and judiciously managed, would prove of untold advantage, &c. &c." But at the outset (it) looked with disfavor upon the plan of Government itself doing the work, "because history and common sense (*salon law*) prove that "the most expeditious, as well as the most economical, way of accomplishing public works of any magnitude, is to let them out by contract to private parties." Failing however "a proper person to undertake the work by contract," it thinks the Government "would have done better" in accepting \$100,000 once offered—with what degree of good faith was never ascertained—for the whole tract, "as it lay unimproved."

Now in all this the *Advertiser* looked no further than the Waikahalulu water lots; upon them, and them only, it took its ground in opposition to the Government, and now that the Government by its concessions has removed every reasonable ground of objection, the *Advertiser* with tolerable good grace quits the premises and plants itself in the channel, which it now declares to be "the improvement of paramount importance and upon which all the other works materially depend," so much so, it tells us, that if the Government "instead of expending its means upon those works which have been accomplished" had procured some European or American to contract for deepening the mouth of the harbor, then the Waikahalulu water lots would have been "worth more as they were, with two feet of water all over them, than can be realized now after a large expenditure."

In this evolution of the *Advertiser*, however, there is nothing strange, nor out of character. This versatility of views, this ability of playing possum with its own most mature opinions, entertained "from the commencement," is what renders it so unreliable as an expositor of public opinion, so innocuous as a political organ.

At the eleventh hour the "conviction irresistibly forces itself upon the mind of" the *Advertiser* "that the work has all commenced at the wrong end," &c. Had the *Advertiser* consulted any one of the several sources it ran into so rashly its information on the subject ere it ran into so rash an assertion!

In order that the *Advertiser* may learn what pos-

sibility it knows already, or without knowing which it might have been pardonable for it to doubt, but would have been unsafe to assert that the Government did not appreciate or attend to that "paramount improvement" upon which "all the other works materially depend," we will quote from a report of a committee of the Privy Council on the subject, dated May 16, 1854, and signed "R. C. Wylie, Lot Kamehameha, John II, E. H. Allen, M. Kekuanoa," which says:

"The undersigned would recommend that the general plan suggested by Mr. Webster, should be adopted, but that for the present, only that portion which is marked out on the large map should be undertaken, leaving the rest to be completed, afterwards, in strict conformity with the plan. They would recommend that no work should be done in sections, so as to take the fullest possible advantage of the labor of the prisoners."

"When public works are done by contract, according to defined specifications, it is altogether indispensable that their execution should be continually watched and superintended by some person well qualified to judge whether the work is done in conformity with the specifications, and to see that the specifications are executed, according to the specifications. The undersigned would, therefore, recommend that when the works are commenced, a competent engineer be engaged to supervise them, at an adequate yearly salary, till they be completed."

"The importance of deepening the sea, on the bar, the removal of the sand which forms its impediments, so as to admit of the safe passage into the harbor of ships of the line, and of dredging out the anchorage everywhere, must be evident to Your Majesty and this Council. This importance will be vastly increased, if the threatened war in Europe should take effect, and last for some years, in which case it would necessarily tend to increase the number of vessels to the ports of this Kingdom, under Your Majesty's hospitality and protection as a neutral sovereign."

In connection with this it is hardly necessary to inform the *Advertiser* that the machinery and engineers were imported from the United States for the very purpose of doing that "paramount improvement" which the Government now are censured for not having done. How this design was given up temporarily we will let the Minister, to whose charge the Bureau of Public Works is confided, and the Superintendent of the same, explain. Mr. Wylie says:

"The verdict 'Tiro' in finance, from the condition of the King's Treasury, ever since the prorogation of the last Legislature on the 11th June, 1856, will see that it was an utter impossibility in His Majesty's Government to find means for all the works for which money had been voted. Every statesman and every political economist will see that where money is wanting to carry out every work and improvement authorized by law, it would be folly to fritter out the little money available by a strictly *pro rata* application to all such works and improvements, beginning everything and consuming nothing; and that under such circumstances it is wisest to apply what money is available to the works of greatest necessity and of most universal utility, which it may suffice to carry on effectively. The works mentioned in the Resolutions of the King and Cabinet above quoted, were believed to be of that character. Local roads and bridges throughout the islands may all be very necessary and very useful in their several localities, but of less general utility and advantage to the Hawaiian people as a whole. It is not with the improvement of our Harbor and wharves, and the removal of the obstructions on the bar for vessels drawing more than 22 feet of water. The main products of all the islands converge in Honolulu as their best market to sell. Honolulu being the general emporium for goods and articles of the most varied character in which to buy what the people generally require for their families; and if the harbor can be so improved as to attract foreign ships of war to resort to it, as their favorite place of refitment, their constant presence in port will give a security to the King's Government, in which every Hawaiian, wherever he may be, has a strong personal interest."

"After numerous careful experiments made in September, 1856, it was found that, just as Mr. Dougherty the builder of the dredge boat had predicted, it was by no means calculated to remove the obstructions on the bar. From its floating on the surface, without any sufficient hold in the water, it dragged its anchors, was carried on to the leeward side, where it grounded, but fortunately, was got off without material damage. After that first experiment another was made in presence of the Prince and myself, with the pilots, Captain Meek, and the harbor-master Mr. Holdsworth, assisted by our efficient steam captains, and by our able machinist and engineer Mr. Hughes, the result of which was the conviction of Mr. Dougherty's opinion, and the establishment of the fact that our present dredging boat cannot remove the obstructions on the bar except so slowly as to consume as much time and money as with a proper dredging boat, and the facilities of a foreign loan ought to suffice, both to deepen the water on the bar, and to improve the harbor and reef, on the most extended scale that we have contemplated. This important fact having been thus ascertained, at a conference held on the 2nd October, 1856, at which all the parties above named, attended, it was agreed that under the circumstances, the only proper mode of proceeding was to give up all further attempts on the bar, and to rely on the improvement of the wharves, clearing out of the harbor inside the bar, and to the filling up of the reefs—and to devote the propeller to the tagging of vessels in and out, that she might earn some money whenever she could be so employed without prejudice to the dredging of the harbor. From the earnings of the propeller, as a tag, up to 31st March last, the King's Treasury has received \$14,120."

And Mr. R. A. S. Wood says:

"The machinery and materials having arrived in February, 1856, steps were immediately taken for constructing a dredge boat and steam-tug propeller, which was done by contract, under my own supervision and Mr. Thomas Hughes, a very competent engineer who had been engaged abroad to work the dredge boat. In the month of September, 1856, the dredge boat, propeller being completed, they were set about the work for which they were contemplated, and have since been constantly employed, having excavated something over 70,000 cubic yards of deposit from the harbor, about 55,000 yards of which have been deposited on Waikahalulu; besides clearing away the wharves that had become so shoal as to prevent targe vessels from getting alongside. All of the old wharves now, with the exception of Market Wharf, will take a vessel of twenty-two feet draught."

"Some of the first work attempted was on the bar at the entrance of the harbor, but owing to the heavy swell and the peculiar form of the dredge boat, coupled with the inexperience of those employed on the work we were unable to make much progress further than to ascertain very nearly the nature of the deposit, which we found to be packed sand. The season for the arrival of ships having commenced, it was thought best to continue the operations in the inner harbor during the winter season; where, after clearing around the wharves, work was commenced on the spit adjoining Waikahalulu reef. The summer of 1857 was so rugged that we have not had a single week suitable to make further attempts on the bar at the entrance of the harbor. For the purpose of obtaining all the information possible during the summer, I have had correspondence with several experienced engineers upon the peculiar difficulty encountered in attempting to deepen the entrance of the harbor, and from the best information I can obtain I am strongly of the opinion that a dipper of Mr. Augustus Stoner's invention, attached to the apparatus we now have, will be found to execute the work required without much difficulty, and the cost of which I think will not exceed \$1,800 or \$2,000. For excavating inside, or where there is no very great swell, I think we could not obtain a better machine than the one now in use. After eighteen months' wear, it is perhaps as good as when we started the work, with the trifling addition of some few small castings which will be required during the coming year."

And further on he adds:

"Wharves Waikahalulu, removing Forts, &c.—There has been expended on this appropriation the sum of \$5,240 46 for copper, carpenters' labor, making wharves, laying wall, prison labor, removing Fort, and depositing mud on the reef. One thousand five hundred feet of retaining wall has been laid, in from nine to fourteen feet water, and three feet above mean tide. One wharf, ninety feet front, having a depth of twenty-three feet water, and one one hundred and twenty feet frontage, with seventeen feet water; while there is one berth, one hundred and ninety feet frontage, adjoining Messrs. Robinson & Co.'s wharf, with sixteen feet water—all of which berths are in constant requisition during the shipping season. I would recommend that a wharf be constructed between the two already in use of one hundred feet frontage and twenty feet width, which would

give twenty-two feet water. This wharf will be urgently required during the next fall."

The *Advertiser* seems to be equally ignorant about the reasons why the work was not performed by contract, and however unwilling to detail our readers yet we beg their patience while we dwell a moment upon that matter also.

To be as sober and scriptural as becomes so grave a subject, "to answer a fool according to his folly," or to follow the Milesian custom, improved by Yankee practice, of answering one question by asking another, we would say, by what new rule of financing would the *Advertiser*, or any other representative of the commercial and literary "Dry-as-dusts," contract for a work without having the probable sum of its cost lying by it in its safe, or within the easy reach of a cheque on the bank? Our Government not having either cash on hand nor deposits at the bank, and being unable to negotiate a loan for the sum needed in order to carry out the original plan of contracting for the work, was consequently obliged to do it itself, gradually as its means would permit, or let the whole work lay over for a more propitious combination of circumstances.

"God only helps those who are willing to help themselves," is a generally received truth; and our Government, instead of sucking its fingers and with Micawber waiting "for something to turn up," deemed it no disparagement to do its own work and improve its own property. Trustful minds and generous hearts would acknowledge and credit this fact; not so the *Advertiser*. It quotes the governments of Europe, America and Russia as precedents which our Government should have followed, while it knew or should have known that they were no precedents at all in pecuniary resources.

There is a want of ingenuousness and candor in the *Advertiser's* review that is sadly felt and really marred what we are inclined to believe was kindly meant, so far as that journal ever pleads guilty to such a feeling.

In a communication written for the *Advertiser* by a gentleman that went passenger to San Francisco in the clipper bark "What Cheer," the following sentences occur:

"But if we want merchant ships or steamers to touch at our ports, we must make more efforts to produce something extra as supplies for them. We frequently hear the inquiry, why do merchant ships go past our port without touching? The answer is clear—we have nothing to induce them to visit us. Piled along-side of the California or Australian products, our vegetables are almost worthless."

Now, with all respect for the writer of the above sentence, "the answer is (not) clear," at least in the sense in which he wishes the inference to be drawn. Vessels some times go past our port, not because we have no supplies to offer them, but because we have no cargoes, freight or passengers sufficient to induce them. If the manufacturer or retailer of the above list had made as diligent inquiry upon this subject as he might have done, he would have been told of the large number of vessels who are put up for China or Australia "to touch at Honolulu, if sufficient inducement offers." And this inducement the writer knew was not a question of supplies, but of freight.

Without pretending that our supplies have attained their limits of perfection and cheapness, yet we think it particularly in our favor, and converting the assumption of Mr. W. in the *Advertiser*, to repeat the observation made by Capt. Barker of H. B. M. steamer *Retribution*, that "the supplies at Honolulu were both better and cheaper than at Valparaiso," or any other port in the Pacific where he had touched.

That "our tomatoes and onions would hardly be picked up by street beggars in San Francisco," is possible upon the principle that poverty and pride go together.

The Infant Prince.
We are happy to be able to state that Her Majesty is rapidly gaining strength and continues every day to make the most satisfactory progress towards her customary state of good health. The Prince is strong and thriving, and the few ladies who have been favored with an early glimpse of him speak of him in terms of the highest commendation.

Since our last issue the King has been waited upon with fresh expressions of congratulation. On Saturday the 22nd, the Lodge of Freemasons over which the King presides, called *Le Progrès de l'Océanie*, attended on His Majesty, accompanied by the Honolulu Royal Arch Chapter, of which the King is a member. Dr. T. C. B. Rooke, S. W., having stated the object with which they appeared there, said that the Secretary, Mr. H. Sea, would, with permission, read an address which embodied the feelings of all present. Mr. Robert Davis, P. M., on the part of the Royal Arch Chapter, stated that he and his companions equally endorsed the sentiments of the address. Mr. Sea then read as follows:

SIR, AND WORTHY BRETHREN—We, the Wardens and Brethren of the *Le Progrès de l'Océanie* Lodge, No. 124, of Free and Accepted Masons, beg most respectfully to approach you, Worshipful Sir, to offer our sincere congratulations on the happy occasion of the safe deliverance of Her Majesty the Queen of an heir Apparent to the Throne, and also to express the lively gratification with which we learn that they are doing well.

We heartily and sincerely congratulate you, Worshipful Sir, on this auspicious event, and as a body, unite with the community at large in praying for the blessings which it promises to the nation.

The affection of your people for you, Worshipful Sir, since your accession to the throne, has been firm and unshaken—that affection was, if possible, still further developed and strengthened by your marriage, and now that Heaven has blessed you with an heir to the throne, that affection has nothing left to desire but the long life, the individual happiness, and the public prosperity and glory of yourself, Worshipful Sir, the Queen and the Royal Infant.

We, as a body of Masons, endorse that feeling of affection on the part of your people, with sincerity, supported by Brotherly love and Fellowship.

His Majesty replied:—
MOST EXCELLENT HOON PAIET, COMPASSIONATE AND BROTHERLY—Bound together as we are in a holy league of brotherhood, I should not be doing justice to the feelings which actuate me in my relationship with yourselves, and operate amongst us all, did I deny that I almost expected you would seek a special occasion to fetter me in the character in which we now appear. For all your kind wishes I thank you from the bottom of my heart, and among the many blessings for which I have, at this time, special reason to be thankful to our Supreme Grand Master, I do not reckon the least, that I enjoy the sympathy of a Fraternity whose objects are so pure, and whose friendships so true as those of our Order. I will not multiply words, but believe me, that when I look upon my infant son, whose birth has been the cause of so much joy to me, and of so much interest to yourselves, the thought already crosses my mind that perhaps one day he may wear these dear little badges, and that his intercourse with his fellow men, like his father's, may be rendered more pleasant, and perhaps, more profitable, by his espousing those solemn tenets which make the name of a Freemason honorable throughout the world.

On Monday the Members of the Cabinet Council laid before the King the following address:

SIR—The Members of Your Majesty's Cabinet, entrusted by Your Majesty with the great interests of Your Kingdom, of which the greatest of all is the preservation of Your dynasty and of the independence of Your people, offer to You and to Her Majesty the Queen, their heartfelt congratulations on the birth of a Prince, heir to Your Majesty's throne.

It has pleased God thus to give You a pledge of the perpetuity of the direct line of Sovereigns over the Hawaiian Islands; and to all Sovereigns who take an interest in Your Majesty and in Your people, a guarantee of that stability in the native Sovereignty which they all desire, and which the members of Your Cabinet hope and believe such Sovereigns will agree to uphold, as indispensable to the preservation of the Hawaiian race, and of

that equal friendship to all nations, in which they are all equally interested.

It has further pleased the Almighty to bless the government of the late King since 1853, and Your own with a prosperity, in the rapidity of its progress, exceeding that of any other nation whatever, in the same circumstances, and in the same period of time.

This wonderful progress, under Providence, is the happy result of the wise direction given to public affairs by the late King and Yourself, of the remarkable docility of Your kind-hearted, cheerful people, and of the union of the members of Your Cabinet in resisting foreign control, and in everything which tends to Your honor, to the welfare of Your people, to the independence of the nation, and to equal justice to all nations and to all men.

The Hawaiian nation, and every other nation having relations with it, have, therefore, a lively interest in the preservation of a life so valuable as that of Your Majesty. The members of Your Cabinet almost pray that it may be long and happy; that Her Majesty the Queen may long share with you the honors of the crown, a pattern as she is to all mothers and all ladies; and that the young Prince, trained under the good precept and example of both, may live and reign after You, over a united and happy people, following the same wise policy, and in favor with God and man.

May the Author of all good shower down every good and perfect gift upon Your Majesty, Her Majesty the Queen, and His Royal Highness the Infant Prince, and shield You and them from all harm, all danger and all evil.

On the same day the Members of the Privy Council also offered their congratulations upon the recent happy event, and in the following language:

SIR—We, the members of Your Majesty's Privy Council of State, beg to approach Your Majesty at this time with our sincere congratulations upon the happy event which has just transpired in the birth of a Prince—heir to the Throne of this Kingdom.

It is an event which has ever occurred in the history of these Islands, but the cause of a more general feeling of interest, or been hailed with more universal joy, among all classes of Your Majesty's subjects and foreigners residing within Your Dominions, than the birth of the young Prince.

May a kind Providence watch over his infant years—may the hand of the Almighty be with him through life, and may he grow up to be a blessing to his people, and an honor to the ancient and illustrious line of Chiefs from which he has sprung.

We desire also to add the expression of our gratitude to the Giver of all Good for Her Majesty's safe delivery, with our most earnest wishes for her speedy recovery and continued happiness.

To these and the previous expressions of loyal good will the King replied, tendering his heartfelt thanks.

On Wednesday Mr. Florens Stapanhorst, Consul of H. R. H. the Grand Duke of Oldenburg, waited on His Majesty, to offer congratulations on the birth of the infant Prince. Mr. Stapanhorst had been absent from Honolulu and only just returned.

Yesterday a deputation from Lihina had an audience of the King to present an address prepared under the following circumstances:

The citizens of Lihina met on Monday the 24th inst., at the Court House, to express their joy at the birth of a Royal Prince.

The meeting was called to order by William Ap Jones, Esq.; and Edward P. Bond, Esq., was elected Chairman, and J. W. Maipinepine Secretary. The following gentlemen were chosen a committee to draft a congratulatory address to His Majesty: J. W. H. Kauwahi, J. D. Kahookano, Edward P. Bond, William Ap Jones and A. Moku.

At an adjourned meeting on the 25th inst., the committee reported the accompanying address, which was adopted. Messrs. Bond, Keaweiki and Kahookano were appointed a committee to present the address in person to His Majesty, and to request its publication in the *Po-nesian* and *Hae Hawaii*.

Messrs. Jones and Moku were appointed a committee of arrangements for an entertainment to be held in honor of the joyous event.

The address was couched in the following terms:

(TRANSLATED.)
LAHAINA, May 26, 1856.
TO HIS GRACIOUS MAJESTY:
SIR—Your subjects residing in Lahaina, Island of Maui, having heard that Her Majesty the Queen has given birth to a Prince, have been filled with delight and with joyful sympathy with Your Majesty, in the advent of a first-born child to perpetuate the Royal Family of Hawaii, and to take his place in the succession of the Kamehamehas.

And for the great joy of Your Majesty's subjects in this place, with an ever ready called each one to his neighbor, and quickly and quietly assembled that they might testify their affection at the birth of a lawful heir to the Throne, and their hope that through God's blessing, your Majesty and the Queen might be the means of continuing the Royal Family, and of giving new life to your people.

The birth of an heir to your Majesty's Throne is an event that gives joy to your people as one by which the Constitution shall be perpetuated, and that desire shall be fulfilled which was announced by his late Majesty, Kamehameha III, through his Ministers, to the governments of Great Britain, France and the United States, that the Throne of Hawaii should be continued in the family of Kamehameha.

And they would respectfully declare their affection for your Majesty, and for Her Majesty Queen Emma, and would invoke the God of Life to preserve the lives of your Majesty and of the Queen, and of the young Prince, and to grant You long to reign upon the Throne of Hawaii.

His Majesty replied in very heartfelt terms, declaring himself highly gratified by this new mark of sympathy with him and his, and expressed his hope that the good people of Lahaina might be made aware how much he valued such a demonstration on their part.

Court News.

At an audience at the Palace on Tuesday last, the Hon. David L. Gregg, the late Commissioner of the United States to these Islands, waited on the King upon the occasion of transferring his functions to other hands and to introduce the Hon. James W. Borden, his successor. The Commissioner of H. I. M., and the Chancellor of the French Legation were present, as were also the lady of the new American Commissioner, and Mr. Consul Pratt and lady, besides the Ministers, Judges and usual Court.

Mr. Gregg spoke as follows:

I am expressly instructed, in taking leave of Your Majesty's Government, to renew the assurances so frequently expressed heretofore, that the Government and people of the United States entertain a friendly sympathy towards the Hawaiian Kingdom. They desire its independence and prosperity;—they would deprecate the existence of any cause to retard its advancement; they will, under a due regard to international propriety, take pleasure in aiding whatever may contribute to the development of its resources, the permanence of its institutions and the welfare of its people.

The pleasure of fulfilling the duty thus imposed upon me, is greatly enhanced by the consideration that the relations existing between the United States and the Hawaiian Kingdom are upon a footing entirely consistent with the mutual interest and respect of two independent sovereignties for each other;—and also by the further consideration that its performance affords me a fit opportunity of expressing, in some small degree, my sense of obligation for the uniform kindness,—the unvarying courtesy,—the numerous manifestations of good will, which have rendered my official residence in your Majesty's dominions agreeable and satisfactory to my family and to myself, in every sense both personal and political. To your Majesty, to your Majesty's Royal Council, to your Ministers and Chiefs, and to the people of your Kingdom, we are under many obligations of kindness and friendship, for which the expression of thanks is but a small measure of return.

I congratulate your Majesty and the Queen upon the happy advent of an heir to the name and Throne of his ancestors. May he grow up to justify all the loyal good wishes and enthusiasm which have welcomed his birth! May it be his fortune to transmit to posterity the admirable qualities of his progenitors, the renown of their name, and the independence of his people.

It is proper before performing the act which formally severs the relations I have heretofore borne to your Majesty's Government, that I should express the conviction that the gentleman who has been chosen to succeed me, possesses abundantly all the qualities and dispositions to render him in the highest degree an acceptable representative of his country at your Majesty's Court. Enjoying the confidence of his Government, and well-informed in regard to its constant policy of benevolence towards this Kingdom, it will be his good fortune, as well as inclination, to strengthen

the friendly relations I have ever sought to cultivate. I beg to commend him to the confidence of your Majesty's Government, and to bespeak for him not less consideration and kindness than I have had the honor to receive.

It now only remains for me to take a respectful leave of your Majesty, and to present, as I have great pleasure in doing, Mr. Borden, who takes my place, as Commissioner of the United States.

Mr. Borden then addressed the King as follows:

Having presented to His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Relations, the credential letter appointing me the Representative of the United States near the Government of your Majesty, I avail myself of this occasion to say to you, that for reasons which are doubtless properly appreciated by your Majesty, the Government and people of the United States have long felt a deep solicitude for the stability of the institutions and the advancement and prosperity of the people who are so fortunate as to have you for their Ruler. And I am instructed by the President to convey to your Majesty the assurance of a continuation of these friendly sentiments on his part.

In performance of the trust assigned me, I shall deem myself most fortunate if I can, in some measure, equal my distinguished and talented predecessor. The task might have been committed to others more capable of representing the interests of my country; but let me assure you that no one could approach you, with greater respect nor with a more ardent desire, by all honorable means, to draw closer and closer the relations of kindness and good-will which now so happily subsist between the United States and the Kingdom of Hawaii. And I feel confident that in no way could I better serve my own country or gain the approbation of the President, than on all proper occasions to use my best exertions to promote the mutual welfare of both countries.

Allow me to congratulate your Majesty upon the auspicious event which has recently given an heir to the Kingdom, and which will, I trust, tend to the stability of the Throne and the happiness of your people.

His Majesty, turning to Mr. Gregg, replied:

From the renewed assurances of sympathy and good will towards this Kingdom, which, on the part of the President of the United States of America, you have just expressed, I cannot but derive the liveliest gratification, reminding me as they do of the long course of years during which the successive Heads of your Government have offered, through their Representatives here, similar professions of amity, without an interruption having occurred to mar the retrospect. I should be sorry were the President, or you, to suppose for one instant that I regard these professions merely as a civil form of words called for by the occasion.

The Government of the United States has never flattered me or my predecessors with expectations of more than it intended to perform; the action has always followed true to the word, and we know by experience the value of such assurances as those to which I have just listened with so much satisfaction.

It is indeed a fact worthy of notice and of remembrance, that the relations existing between the two countries were never more happy, or more calculated to inspire the smaller nation with a sense of independence and an appreciation of the fact that its future is in its own hands, than at this very moment, when, after having faithfully watched the interests intrusted to your care for more than four years, you are resigning that honorable duty into other hands. You have shown that strength of purpose may be united with courtesy of manner, and have justified your appointment by proving that their rights are best guarded, whose representative, being honest in his own intentions, does not without cause doubt the faith of the Government to which he is accredited.

Although I am afraid you over-estimate the actual value of the marks of courtesy and attempts to make agreeable your residence and that of your family upon these islands, which we have sought to offer, I thank you for the kind expression of your acknowledgments, and trust that you will always believe that my object, and that of every member of my Government, was but poorly carried out by any manifestations which it has been in my power to make. But, Mr. Gregg, not to seem to claim more credit than we deserve, allow me to add that the attempt was by no means a disinterested one, for in all the relations of society, those persons are most welcome who ornament it most and are themselves the most courteous.

I have too much confidence in the good-will and sympathy of the Government of the United States, and faith in the wisdom of the President, to allow of a single doubt as to the course which your successor will pursue. It shall be my endeavor, and that of my Government, to regard him as the honored Representative of a great nation, and a good friend. I believe that his dealings with us will be generous, that he will pursue the policy which in the hands of his predecessors has so happily helped to make this nation what it is to-day, and that, if coming after you, he cannot increase the feelings of kindness, and on one side of gratitude, which already exist here and in the United States, he will at least maintain them.

Then addressing himself to Mr. Borden, the King spoke as follows:

In welcoming you as the Representative of the United States, allow me to say, Mr. Borden, that I anticipate nothing but the most satisfactory intercourse between you and my government. The country from which you are accredited has afforded too many tokens of good-will, and manifested too lively an interest in all that concerns this Archipelago, and that for too long a season of years, to leave any question possible as to its future policy.

So long as such feelings exist on your side, and we retain gratitude enough to remember with acknowledgments the benefits we have already received from the Government and people of the United States, and can appreciate the advantages continually derived from the friendship and countenance of such a nation, there is little chance that the harmony now happily existing will be disturbed. I thank you for the kind terms in which you have alluded to the birth of the Prince, my son—an event which has filled me with the greatest pleasure and gives rise to many hopeful anticipations.

Mrs. Borden was then introduced and after half an hour's conversation, during which the ladies found an opportunity to visit the little Prince, the company retired.

THE PAST WEEK.

Queen Victoria's Birth-Day.

Monday, the 24th of May, was kept, as such days are, with mirth and jollity among the loyal British subjects, who look with pride and affection upon their Queen as a combination of regal dignity and matronly virtue. Flags waved in profusion; a half-holiday obtained throughout the city, and, though we saw no procession or other public display, we know that "homes and sweet-homes" were duly remembered.

Torch-Light Procession.

Hon. D. L. Gregg, U. S. Commissioner at the Court of Honolulu, having transferred his official duties as such to his successor, Hon. J. W. Borden, on Tuesday last, his numerous friends, well-wishers and compatriots—with that spontaneity of action which speaks of the sincerity of intent, however wanting in the preparedness of execution—proceeded to his house in the evening with music and flambeaux. Speeches were delivered, by B. W. Field, Esq., on the part of his countrymen and the citizens generally, and by Messrs. Gregg and Borden in reply. But beyond the procession, the speeches and acclamations, we look upon the affair as a grateful adieu to an retiring Statesman and a cheering welcome to another.

We learn from Dr. W. Hillebrand that round the lower part of the pools, or fruit of some plants received from the Marquesas Islands by the *Morning Star* he has discovered insects of exactly the same description as those which are destroying the coffee at Hawaii. The supposition is that they exist also in the Society Islands, from whence they may have been imported here. But there is no certainty upon this point, and the insect in question may have been a denizen of these islands for many years past, although it is only of late that it has appeared in the character of a pest upon a grand scale.

The Schooner Alice.

This fine little iron vessel, which for over two years has been under the Hawaiian flag and in the coasting trade, having been bought by the house of R. C. Janion, in this place, was loaded and despatched last week for Victoria, Vancouver's Island, and the new gold diggings to the Northward. Being too deeply loaded, and springing a leak forward, she returned last Saturday, discharged her cargo, stopped her leak, re-loaded and

sailed again on Wednesday last. Our well-known low resident, Mr. J. E. Chapman, goes as super-cargo. That the Susque mines, on the Frazer and Thompson rivers are better than the most sanguine expectations to be an established fact. And the crops being to them from all parts of Oregon, Washington and California will necessitate shipments of pork and m-lasses, flour and beans, and other staples of life of which we have enough and to spare. It is ten years since California discoveries created an excitement in the parts from which we are only now recovering; it therefore to be hoped that our farmers and planters will take the thing more coolly this time. In the meantime success to the *Alice*, the pioneer and representative *Hawaii-ian*.

Alarms of Fire.

On Monday last about 8 o'clock in the morning, an alarm of fire was made in the rear of the premises occupied by Messrs. Utai & Ahee. The chimney of the cook-house got on fire, but was almost immediately extinguished.

On Tuesday evening, as somebody, who apparently was not "born in the woods," caught sight of its torches in the procession opposite Mr. Gregg's residence, he gave the alarm of fire through the streets and set the bells a-going, to the great disgust of those who were started out of their equanimity for nothing.

There used to be a statute law upon creating false alarms of fire. When we have a fire department as effective, so prompt and so willing as what we pride ourselves upon, it should not be annoyed by false alarms or sent about the streets to quench the fiery imaginations of those who have not yet learned the difference between chalk and cheese.

The "Morning Star."

This fine looking clipper brig is undergoing extensive repairs previous to her departure for the Micronesian Stations. We have heard but one opinion upon the manner in which she was built and finished at home, and that opinion is not very flattering. Being now at the ship-yard of Messrs. Johnson & Co., we are sure that her wants will receive the most scrupulous and